

The regular meeting of the Town Assembly of the Village of Arden was held on March 28, 1977 with Chairman, Thomas E. Colgan, presiding.

The minutes of the January 24, 1977 meeting were approved as circulated.

As required by Senate Bill No. 256(Sunshine Law) the following is the list of attenders at this meeting:

Deborah Colgan	John D. Hewlett	Woodrow H. Vandever
June Kleban	Dave MacIrod	A. Sykulski
Margie Hamburger	Reese Davis	Steve Tanzer
Jenny Marshall	Bill Morley	Pat Renzetti
Houston Roberts	Bill Bindloss	Beverly Barnett
Sallie E Estes	Nancy Hajar	Elizabeth Varley
Patricia Press	Andrew Foote	William Bailey
Marjorie Laskey	Beatrice Jaffe	Carol Jean Freer
Liz Bracken	Jim Shinn	B. Passanante
Sarah Hamburger	Bertha W. Brooks	P. Payne
Mary Burslem	Rae Gerstine	Aaron Hamburger
George Mercer	Paul B. Thompson	Jean K. Brachman
Janet Macnamara	Joan W. Colgan	Elvie Grimaldi
Thomas E. Colgan	Terry C. Hufford	B. Brachman
Mary Morley	Mary T. Kumme	F. Herzog
Burt Kossove	Zola Davis	M. F. O'Connor
Ann Kossove	Clyde M. Davis	Diane Kershaw
Lee Starr	Lori(Maggie) Teel	Wayne Kershaw
Barbara Fenske	Donald E. Plorde	John Grimaldi
Tim Snyder	A. Barnes King	Tom Stapleford
Cy Liberman	Irene R. Heymann	Ruth Panella
Kathleen W. Worth	Frank J. Heymann	Maryanne van Neerden
Gwynne Smith	W. C. Press	David Adkins
Carolyn Liberman	Helen Macklem	Marjorie van Gulick
Michael K. Curtis	Ruth Shaw	Frank Akutowicz
Arlene Davis	Eugene Shaw	Joad Kazan
Virginia Shaw		

A motion was made and passed unanimously that we suspend the order of business so that the Registration Committee could conduct the election for the committees and officers of the Town Assembly and to permit Representative Gwynne Smith to present her proposed bill to us.

The ballots were distributed and the floor was opened for nominations. Frank Herzog was nominated to serve on the Safety Committee. William Press was nominated to serve as Chairman of the Town Assembly. Hugh Roberts and John Hewlett were nominated to serve as Advisory Committee Chairman.

Representative Gwynne Smith spoke on H.B. 77(the Bottle bill) which introduces legislature for returnable bottles. The major points are

1. a 5 cent deposit on most bottles whether refillable or not
2. a 2 cent deposit on all containers that can be reused by more than one bottler
3. creation of a redemption centers
4. prohibition of flip-top tabs in one year after passage of bill
5. prohibition of non-refillable glass bottle in two years.

Purpose of the bill is to reduce beverage container litter and increase life of landfills.

Trustees report by Cy Liberman:

The financial report was presented and a copy is on file. The total expenditures and the budget figures were circulated. The question of the \$15,000. for sewer costs has not resolved as yet. An act is being presented to the Legislature by New Castle County concerning this.

Trustees are inspecting boundaries of leaseholds along woods. The Trustees are considering rezoning all Arden to R1CC, which is 10,000 sq. feet, The Sherwood side of the village is now zoned at R1C ,6500 square feet. Any established lot less than 10,000 will be non-conforming.

At the January meeting the Town Assembly voted to oppose the project, known as the "Arden Village Centre: at Grubbs Corner. The Department of Planning, the Planning Board had not acted on request for rezoning, but they had had no response to their question of ownership rights.

A meeting has been arranged for Thursday, March 31 to arrange for the participation of Arden and surrounding communities interested in opposing the rezoning of the Grubbs Corner for the Hoopes project.

No report from the Assessors, Auditing, or Budget Committees.

Civic Committee report by Reese Davis.

They had one open meeting since January and will conduct a tour of Arden on Friday, April 9 starting at 9:30 A. M. from the Buzz Ware Village Center.

Annual town clean-up day will be held early in May.

Patching of roads will be done as required within the next 4-6 weeks,

The Committee has revised its blanket prohibition of motor vehicles from the Town woodlands for a one year trial basis as follows:

1. Controlled access to the Sherwood Forest only will be permitted at times when conditions will not result in damage to the ground.
2. Permission will be granted only to Arden residents or leaseholders for the purpose of removing firewood.
3. Joad Kazan will represent the Civic Committee; maintaining a log book of persons entering the woods, handling the key to the barrier lock and inspecting the woods afterwards.

The Civic Committee intends to closely monitor the effectiveness of this policy.

No report from the Community Planning Committee

Registration Committee report presented by Deborah Colgan.
Number of qualified voters is 437.

Motion #2 to collect and store committee records. First step is to acquire a locked, fireproof, four drawer file cabinet. Berger's has one for \$495, Sears has only one fire proof drawer. We are working with the Delaware Division of Surplus Purchasing in Delaware City to try to purchase one at minimal cost.

Progress on contacting the Attorney General concerning the voting procedure at town assembly. Joseph Rosenthal has been contacted twice by Thomas Golgan and again this evening by phone. He has not had an answer from the Attorney General's office, but it might require a bill through the legislature.

The Registration Committee recruited help of the following to tally the ballots tonight: Maryanne van Neerden, Pat Press, Barbara Fenske, and Pat Liberman.

Safety Committee report by Thomas Stapleford.

Dogs remain a major concern. The first of a series of patrols by the SPCA was conducted on March 8 by two agents who picked up two dogs. Several contacts have been made with the SPCA and the Agent Supervisor has been most cooperative. Future patrols will take place at frequent intervals, but an agent will be dispatched in response to specific complaints telephoned to the Society during business hours. The committee would like to be kept informed of experience in this area.

Buzz Ware Village Center Committee report by Marjorie van Gulick.

The Center continues to be used for a variety of activities and there are some new ones.

A second Stop- Smoking Workshop

A 3-Arden/Montessori lawn sale sometime in May.

The committee is unanimous in our recommendation that the Town Assembly authorize the Committee to negotiate with Wilmington Montessori Association for renewal of their agreement. They feel Montessori has proven to be a satisfactory tenant and they have expressed a desire to continue their use of the building.

The committee discussed whether or not to recommend to negotiate with Montessori for their use of a total of three or four classrooms. A strong minority would like to have an additional room opened for Town use. They felt the stage area is not enough for meetings and we should have held another room previously.

The majority consensus is to recommend that we renegotiated the present agreement for use of the Buzz Ware Village Center with Wilmington Montessori Association, with any changes necessary in financial consideration to cover estimated costs over a new contract period. The factors are:

1. Although the Center has had a great deal of use for a variety of activities, there is no concrete evidence of a need of more exclusive rather than shared space.
2. The present tenants have proven to be cooperative and the relationship amicable. They anticipate they will need the present space.
3. There is neither funding nor justification for the Town to partially or totally support the Buzz Ware Village Center at this time.

A motion will be introduced under new business.

The Registration Committee reported that because none of the candidates for the Town Assembly Chairman or the Advisory Chairman received the required majority of the votes ; those receiving the highest number would have to be voted on a second time;

Town Assembly Chairman: Thomas Colgan
Advisory Committee
Chairman

William Press

William Press

Hugh Roberts

A motion was made by Marjorie van Gulick: To be considered as Motion#3

"I move that the Town Assembly instruct the Buzz Ware Village Center Committee to renegotiate with the Wilmington Montessori Association the present agreement for use of the Buzz Ware Village Center, with necessary changes in financial considerations to cover estimated costs over the new contract period.

Motion #1 An amendment to the previous motion was made by Andrew Foote and seconded:

"The Town of Arden shall maintain one room in the Buzz Ware Village Center for the exclusive use of the town and that the stage area now used jointly by both the town and Montessori Association continue to be used jointly.

The amendment was defeated with 9 aye and 55 nays.

Motion #2 An amendment made to the motion proposed by Marjorie vanGulick

During the period of the agreement with the Montessori Association, that it be made clear that joint use of one of the classroom be used, and that the Montessori Association should arrange the room so it can be used..

The amendment was defeated with a 10 ayes and 49 nays.

Motion #3 as listed above was called for action and the vote was as follows: Carried by 54 ayes and 7 nay.

The Registration Committee reported the following elected to serve on the committees and as officers of the Town Assembly:

Auditing Committee: Alton Dahl, William Bindloss, John Hewlett

Budget Committee: Paul Thompson, Deborah Colgan, Kathleen Worth

Civic Committee: Reese Davis, Joan Colgan, Eugene Shaw

Community Planning: Cy Liberman, Ethel Monfort, Richard Florschutz

Registration: Sarah Hamburger, Beverly Barnett, Virginia Shaw

Safety Committee: Thomas Colgan, Shaul Gladstone, Nancy Hajar

Buzz Ware Village Center: Beatrice Jaffe, Marjorie vanGulick, June Kleban

Chairman of Town Assembly: Thomas Colgan

Advisory Committee Chairman: Hugh Roberts

Secretary of Town Assembly: Mary Morley

Treasurer of Town Assembly: Rae Gerstine

Thomas Colgan reported that he had attended the last session of the Delaware League of Local Governments and had an opportunity to talk with Governor duPont. He has invited him to attend our Town Assemblies and the Governor expressed interest in the way Arden conducts its affairs and he will try to attend sometime.

Hugh Roberts has put several sheets on the table in the back of the room for those that are interested to express their opinions concerning some of the legislation that will be enacted soon, such as death penalty.

B. Passanante has resigned as representative to the Brandywine Council of Civic Associations. He did not feel that they were making a very valuable contribution.

Aaron Hamburger spoke on the school situation. The financial condition of public education is in bad shape. If the state withdraws all the financial help that has been talked about, a tax increase will have to be made and school taxes will be about 20% higher for next year.

There will be a cut in the teaching staff and increase in number of students in each class, plus other cuts in services to the students. The exact method of desegregation has not been worked out yet, but busing will also increase costs; therefore, Arden must be prepared for adjustments in the school tax bill.

George Mercer spoke on the changes that may occur in New Castle County taxes because of the financial situation here.

He proposed the following motion that was seconded: Motion #4:

"In view of the numerous problems in financing governmental services and achieving equitable taxation, We the members of the Town Assembly of the Village of Arden have resolved to support and encourage all efforts toward the enactment and implementation of a tax on land values, also known as Incentive Taxation, in conjunction with a reduction and/or removal of taxes on houses and other improvement."

Therefore, we direct the Secretary of the Assembly to send copies of this resolution to the New Castle County Executive and the members of the New Castle County Council.

The motion was carried with 42 aye votes and one nay.

The meeting on motion adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Morley
Mary Morley
Secretary